

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 4, as follows:

For example, a user may subscribe to a number of services for his wireless device, including paging, a sports score service, and e-mail. With all these services active on a typical evening when a variety of sporting events are in progress, the user may be receiving several messages every few minutes. If during this time the user receives an important page or e-mail from his or her boss, the message may go unnoticed among all the other ~~messages and messages~~, and the user may miss an important work assignment.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 17, as follows:

The present invention could be implemented within a wireless network similar to that depicted in FIG. 1. A wireless device 101 communicates with a wireless infrastructure 102 that is connected to a variety of public and private networks including the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) 103 and the Internet 104. The user of the wireless device subscribes to a variety of information services that send messages of various formats or types to the wireless device via one of the networks to which wireless infrastructure 102 is connected. These services can include, but are not limited to, email, paging, voice mail, fax, and ~~short message~~ short-message services (including ~~short message based~~ short-message-based information services). These messages can originate from a variety of equipment such as telephone 105, fax machine 106, computer terminal 107, or network service 108 depending 108, depending on the type of message. The equipment that sends the message will vary based on the type of ~~message and message~~, and some messages may pass through more than one type of equipment before delivery to the wireless device. For example, an individual may leave a voicemail message for the user of the wireless device from telephone 105, but the voicemail will likely be stored on Private Branch Exchange (PBX) equipment 109 or telephone company equipment 110 and ~~the~~ 110. The device storing the voicemail will send a notification message to the wireless device to inform the user that the voicemail has arrived. Additionally, some types of messages can be sent from more than one type of equipment. For example, faxes may be sent from either fax machine 106 or computer terminal 107 if it is equipped with fax software.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10 as follows:

Fig. 2 illustrates one possible way of implementing the present invention where invention, where much of the processing of the incoming messages is performed in the wireless infrastructure. A message for the user of wireless device 101 is received by wireless infrastructure 102 (step 201). The wireless infrastructure then retrieves a set of rules corresponding to the user for which the message is intended from a database either co-located with the wireless infrastructure or at a remote location and that is accessible to the wireless infrastructure via a computer network (step 202). Using these rules, the wireless infrastructure analyzes the message and determines classification information about the message (step 203). Based on this classification information, the wireless infrastructure can assign a priority to the message if desired and if desired. If this priority is not very high the wireless infrastructure may elect not to send the alert message to the device, instead saving the alert message for later retrieval (step 204, 205). If the priority is sufficiently high, the wireless infrastructure sends to the wireless device an alert message to the wireless device containing the classification information about the received message (step 206). This alert message can optionally contain part or the entire contents of the original message along with the classification information. Once the wireless device receives the alert message, it the wireless device organizes and prioritizes the incoming message with the messages already stored on the wireless device using the classification information and pre-assigned priority information (if available) associated with the incoming message and using the classification information that was previously determined for and associated with each of the stored messages (step 207). The wireless device then checks to see if the incoming message has been designated of a sufficient priority level to alert the user of the wireless device that it the message has arrived (step 208). If so, the wireless device can select a customizable or user-defined alert type such as ringing, beeping, or vibrating, based on the classification information (step 209). The wireless device alerts the user using the selected method (step 210). The display of the wireless device may also be updated to reflect that a new message has arrived such as by the display of standard or user-defined icons or sounds, the display of summarized message counts by type, or the display of the actual message itself as determined by the message priority and user-defined settings (step 211).

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 2, as follows:

The rule sets of the present invention used to determine the classification information are typically predetermined by the user of the wireless device. The user can input and modify these rules using any of a variety of well-known systems including well-known systems, including calling into an interactive ~~voice response~~ voice-response system or a system that responds to ~~touch tone~~ touch-tone key presses, using software carried on the wireless device itself, or using a computer interface via the Internet or World Wide Web. These rules could be very simple in nature, with the user's choices being limited to a few very general rules based on a few criteria, for example, message type or message origin. Alternatively, the user could be given the option of creating sophisticated rules that would allow the incoming messages to be searched for key words or phrases, or that would use different rules depending on time of day, day of the week, source of message, etc. The present invention could also be implemented with nested categories. For example, all email messages could be grouped under an "email" category and category, and within that category the email messages could be grouped again as "work" or "personal" email.